

SBC/ET

October 2017

GENERAL INFORMATION

St. Leonard's School is a mixed Catholic academy with 1393 pupils aged 11 to 18 years with approximately 250 in the Sixth Form, situated on the edge of Durham City centre. Newcastle and the Teesside conurbation are within easy reach. Founded in 1936, it became a secondary modern school in the 1960s, and was reorganised as a comprehensive school in 1970. About 70% of the pupils are drawn from ten Roman Catholic primary schools within the Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle. This catchment area is large, extending up to fifteen miles radius from the school. The governing body's admissions policy allows non-Catholic pupils, from families who support our ethos, to enter the school if there are places available.

The ability range of the school is fully comprehensive but the average attainment of Year 7 pupils on entry is above the national average.

We work in close partnerships with:

- Feeder Primary Schools
- Catholic Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle
- Partnership Catholic Secondary schools
- Mid-Durham Schools
- Durham Local Authority
- Specialist Schools and Academies Trust

OFSTED last inspected the school in May 2012, judging it as "Good".

**"St Leonard's is a good school that provides well for its pupils. The great majority of students achieve well in most of their subjects...
The mature attitudes, resilience and application of most students contribute significantly to their good learning".**

The Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle also inspected the school in May 2012 under Section 48 of the Education Act:

"St Leonard's is an outstanding school. All members of the school community contribute to the fulfilling of their mission statement by pursuing excellence in all aspects of provision".

Pupils' achievement is good throughout the school with 79% gaining 9 – 4 grades in both Maths and English in 2017. A large proportion of Year 11 pupils stay on in the Sixth Form where standards are also good; 99% pass rate in 2017 (67% A*/B grades).

As a Catholic school we are committed to the care and development of each individual in a Christian context. Our Mission Statement clearly states this. We therefore expect that all members of staff contribute to and support our ethos.

The School Site

Situated in Durham City just a short walk from the train and bus stations, we have a convenient but compact site. Playing fields are situated across the road from school and we have hard-play areas for PE and recreation on site. Our Sports Hall also acts as an assembly room for major school occasions including masses, presentation evenings and concerts.